

**In the Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) An in vitro method for disrupting the binding of p53 and mdm2 ~~or inhibiting the production of mdm2~~ in a population of cancer cells in which mdm2 is not overexpressed, comprising administering to the cells ~~an agent comprising~~ a peptide, less than 25 amino acids in length, and comprising SEQ ID NO: 3~~including the peptide motif FXaaXaaXaaW (SEQ ID NO: 4), where Xaa is any amino acid, wherein the agent has the property of disrupting the binding of p53 and mdm2 or inhibiting the production of mdm2.~~

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the p53 is activated for DNA specific binding and transcription.

3-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~agent~~ peptide has the property of competing with mdm2 for binding p53, but does not inhibit DNA specific binding property of p53.

9-27. (Canceled)